

Erlene Bodene's Thanks to Haws

Hi Gang,

For this newsletter, I'm turning the presses over to Erlene Bodene. She's my third Haws dog adoption.

HowDEE Everybody. I am living in the lap of bloodhound luxury in Mukwonago now and celebrating my third birthday in October '10.

My story is that I was surrendered to Haws in April 2009 looking pretty skinny. I am a purebred bloodhound by the looks of me. Got the whole deal going: wrinkly skin, huge ears, houndy voice, and big! My previous owner reported losing two jobs and was having a hard time providing enough groceries for me. I was freaking out at all the new smells and activities when he surrendered me to the shelter.

At first, I thought getting left at the shelter was the worst thing ever! Turns out it was the best thing ever. A kennel caretaker decided to foster me at his family's home. Suddenly I had an older dog brother and learned all about potty training. Apparently, it is a big deal to go potty outside **every time**. Humans are so uptight about this, so now I play along with them. It took a few weeks and a lot of carpet cleaning solution. Bloodhounds don't make little puddles!

I was skinny at 66 pounds, and started to get 4 cups of food 3 times a day. Boy, was my dog brother jealous of all that food. I was still looking for more! A stool sample revealed some internal parasites and when Haws treated me for those little buggers, I started eating less and weighing more right away. Besides being skinny, I also came to the shelter with a really common bloodhound eye problem. My wrinkles forced my eyelashes right onto my eyes. It's called entropion, and it made my eyes tear all the time. Those tears caused my skin to be raw and painful, so I winced and made the rubbing eyelash problem worse. Thank goodness for the Haws doctors. I had a little "work" done on the skin by my eyes to correct the problem. It made my eyes feel so much better...it almost made up for that evil cone collar I had to wear! As you can see by my picture, I am the picture of health.

I was so sweet to my foster family; they couldn't help but fall in love with me. It was all made official with adoption papers. Since then I have put on at least 25 pounds, learned the invisible fence rules, and was a star at Haws charm school: Obedience lessons with other dogs and all the sniffing I could muster. My family has never seen a dog sniff in puddles before. I'm not sure I'm thrilled with all the laughing, but I am thrilled that my previous owner brought me to Haws. Haws is very careful about adoptions and I must say they picked the perfect family for me. I think I'll keep them!

Erlene Bodene Posanski

Picture of Erlene: